



PILGRIM TRAILS

Spring 2020

Welcome to our newsletter - Pilgrim Trails
This is our seventh publication charting the news of
the 'Pilgrim Roots' Project in the anniversary year of 2020

HIGHLIGHT of BASSETLAW'S 2020 MAYFLOWER'S 400th Anniversary EVENTS is a VISIT from the WAMPANOAG Native American PEOPLE

Bassetlaw District Council has been awarded a grant of £93k from Arts Council England to support a visit from a team of Wampanoag craftspeople to visit North Nottinghamshire. Their visit, in early June 2020 comes as a result of the close relationship that evolved between Bassetlaw District Council and Paula and Steven Peters of Smoke Signals, Mashpee, Massachusetts. During the design stage of the new Pilgrims Gallery at Bassetlaw Museum, Smoke Signals were instrumental in providing the Wampanoag perspective of Mayflower history to use in the gallery interpretation. They were keen to tell their own story in their own words.

It was in 2018 that the initial idea was formed that spokespeople from the Wampanoag should visit North Notts to see the Gallery first hand and pursue an ambition to build a Wetu (native American dwelling) in the grounds of the museum.

Steven Peters said 'This is such an exciting project; not only does it allow us to visit the area where many of the Mayflower Separatists originated from, it gives us an opportunity to showcase the traditional skills of wetu building that are being lost to our own community. There are very few occasions that we can demonstrate these crafts in today's world and we are very grateful to Arts Council for supporting this wonderful initiative'.

In addition to building the Wetu, the Wampanoag visitors will exhibit a variety of traditional arts and crafts at Bassetlaw Museum throughout their week-long visit and school children will be invited to attend complementary education sessions. Bassetlaw District Council Leader Simon Greaves said "We are delighted that Arts Council have endorsed the visit of the Wampanoag. It is undoubtedly the highlight of our 2020 calendar of Mayflower related events and it positions Bassetlaw on an international map. We are looking forward to extending a very warm welcome to the team".



Wampanoag people at Plimoth Plantation, Massachusetts



A Wampanoag Wetu

RING the PILGRIM CHURCHES for 2020

The Pilgrim Roots project is encouraging campanologists from near and far to visit churches on the Pilgrims Trail during 2020 and ring there. The Pilgrims Trail Churches which have six or more bells are: Babworth; St Swithuns, Retford; and Sturton le Steeple. We will provide a certificate for individuals who have rung at those three churches during 2020 and helped us mark this special year.

The certificates can be claimed by a visit to the Pilgrims Gallery at the end of your tour, where you can also find out more about the local pilgrims who set sail 400 years ago. Groups of bell ringers can contact Tower Captains to arrange a visit in the usual way, or seek support from Pilgrims Gallery staff: info@pilgrimroots.org

A visit to other churches on the trail (Austerfield, Gainsborough URC and Scrooby) would make a lovely addition to such a trip, and there are plenty of local pubs, as well as a choice of cafes en route, to ensure energy levels are kept up!



Paula Peters

Wampanoag

A highlight of the project will be a conference entitled 'The Wampanoag Perspective' which will explore themes of migration, tolerance and freedom with keynote speaker, Paula Peters.

"We're very pleased to be standing up as equals on an international platform to tell our story," said Paula, who sits on an advisory committee helping shape the British commemoration.



The Wampanoag Perspective Conference will be held at Hodsock Priory on 4th June. Attendance is free but tickets must be reserved in advance. Entry to Bassetlaw Museum is free and visitors are encouraged to engage and interact with the craftspeople building the wetu in the gardens. As Steven Peters says "Our team are ambassadors for all Native American people and will be delighted to talk about our history and answer any questions that visitors may have". Other partners involved are Notts County Council, Inspire, Nottingham Trent University and Bassetlaw Twinning Association.



The new PILGRIMS TRAIL LEAFLET has arrived!

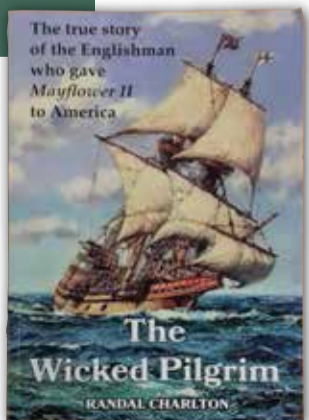
A new map and trail leaflet has been produced, highlighting the Pilgrim villages around Retford and Gainsborough and includes other places of interest worth visiting too.

The leaflet is available from Retford's Hub, Pilgrims Gallery at Bassetlaw Museum, Gainsborough Old Hall and the various churches and sites around the trail. It can also be downloaded from www.pilgrimroots.org website.

Visit of RANDAL CHARLTON author of THE WICKED PILGRIM

We were delighted to welcome Randal Charlton to Pilgrims Gallery recently. Randal is the son of Warwick Charlton the man who built the replica Mayflower II. Although Warwick had no financial resources and no knowledge of building ships, nevertheless Mayflower II was built in under 2 years and it was sailed to America in 1957. In preparation for 2020, the ship has been lovingly restored at a cost of \$7.5million. Randal has written a book about his father's remarkable achievements; The Wicked Pilgrim is available to purchase in Bassetlaw Museum gift shop. We have invited Randal to return to Retford to give talks about Mayflower II on April 7th.

Visit www.pilgrimroots.org for details.





The Pilgrims Gallery

We are FINALISTS!

The Pilgrims Gallery was nominated for best tourist attraction in the North Notts. Business Awards and we are thrilled to announce we have made it into the final! The business awards have been running since 2010 and comprise both professionally judged and public voting categories. The North Notts. Business Awards website says: 'Together we celebrate the brightest stars of the North Notts. region, highlighting the expertise, achievements and outstanding contribution that these businesses and individuals make to the local economy and to this amazing emerging business region as a whole.'



Pilgrims at Retford Charter Day 2020

Retford Charter Day, this year taking place on the later May bank holiday (25th), will feature a heritage element to celebrate the town's rich history and deep connection to the Mayflower Pilgrims.

Current plans include historic re-enactors encouraging people to defy the King and join the Separatists, pilgrims in costume leading activities such as embroidery and a 'jousting school' – there could even be a miniature trebuchet for children to learn from! Pilgrims Gallery staff will be on hand to help bring the history to life.

Charter Day marks the beginning of the PilgrimAGE, a summer full of activities to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower's voyage. Check out our website.

ALL THINGS MAYFLOWER 400 UPDATE! BOOKS, TOURS & SPIRITS!

In October 2019, Sally Outram, of Mayflower Pilgrims Nottinghamshire UK Ltd, visited the USA, to promote Pilgrims, Mice & Kings Tour and her soon to be published, Remedies & Recipes Cookery Book. Sally visited Plymouth, Provincetown, Boston and New York, where both her tour and book were greatly received, with much interest. Pilgrims, Mice & Kings 1-2-day tour, is now also available to book via the Visit Britain shop, TripAdvisor, and through Travel Agents globally.



Besides, an exciting new project is underway! A very special artisan Gin is to be produced by David Anderson of Dilly Dilly Gin/ the Bees Knees at Laneham, in North Nottinghamshire, using the new Pilgrim 400 Apple, from a recipe featured in Remedies & Recipes Cookery Book. Further details will be available soon.

A new tour will also be added to Sally's Mayflower 400 itineraries! Discover North Nottinghamshire's Pilgrim Country which includes a visit to one of the UKs best working Windmills, and is situated in North Leverton with Hablesthorpe, which has the longest name for a village in England!

There's some great news about the Remedies & Recipes cookery book! The book will be for sale at Mystic Seaport in the USA, along with many other high street outlets and stores in the US and the UK.

PILGRIM APPLE Reaches Southampton

The Pilgrim 400 apple tree is now in Southampton. It was gifted to the city by Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council and was carefully transported there by horticulturist and BBC Gardening Correspondent John Stirland, who was on hand to oversee proceedings and assist with the planting. The ceremony took place on 11th February 2020, at Cuckoo Lane Park, behind the Mayflower Monument, and was led The Rt Hon the Lord Mayor, Councillor Peter Baillie. Children from St John's School were invited, in recognition of their School of Sanctuary status, which is awarded for work in developing tolerance and understanding; these are key themes for Southampton's Mayflower 400 programme.

A Pilgrim 400 Apple was planted at Idle Valley, Retford in February and the next planting date is March 13th when a Pilgrim 400 apple will be planted at Bassetlaw Hospice.



News from Pilgrim Roots in Gainsborough

Pilgrim Roots welcomed teachers from across Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire to Gainsborough Old Hall for a training day co-hosted with Historic England's Heritage School's officer Kate Argyle where an outline framework for integrating Pilgrims' heritage teaching and learning was developed.

The Old Hall hosted a series of macrame sessions with artist Rachel Carter as part of her 'Pilgrim Woman' Spirit of Mayflower project. Rachel is creating a bronze sculpture of a Pilgrim woman, featuring a dress designed and made by the sewing group volunteers at the Old Hall.

November saw another Illuminate parade telling the story of the Pilgrims to a large audience in town - made possible as part of £100K funding from Arts Council England for West Lindsey District Council's Mayflower 400 cultural programme. The Imagination Museum Mayflower 400 dance project's final celebratory performance also took place, with schoolchildren from Parish Church Primary and Whites Wood Academy giving excellent performances of the story told through movement and music.

Coming up for the opening of the summer PilgrimAGE season of events, 'Flight of the Separatists' is a day-long event on Sunday 10 May in Gainsborough to mark the historic date that the Separatists escaped via the River Trent to make their way to Holland. The Old Hall will be the centre of activities, with music and fun throughout the day. The event will also feature Gainsborough's mass participation Make a Mayflower project to mark the anniversary. A range of making-options are available (in wool, paper, card and even milk bottles) we'd love you to have a go and be part of Gainsborough's community Mayflower event.



The planting at Southampton

For more information about what's on in Gainsborough and to take part in Make a Mayflower, visit: DiscoverGainsborough.com/Pilgrim-Roots.



Thank you NATIONAL LOTTERY Players!

All partners in the Pilgrim Roots project are grateful to national lottery players. We understand that without lottery support, our Gallery and other wonderful elements of this three year project would not be possible.

Over half a million projects have benefited from National Lottery funding over the last quarter-century. A portion of every lottery ticket and scratchcard sold in the UK goes towards funding good causes.

Don't forget if you visit Bassetlaw Museum and the Pilgrims Gallery and show your lottery ticket you will receive a free Pilgrims Gallery bookmark which is normally sold in the gift shop for £1.



SCROOBY to PLYMOUTH - which PLYMOUTH?

On a wet Tuesday afternoon in late November a small group gathered to mark the placing of a finger sign post. This was outside the Pilgrim Fathers Public House on the Great North Road in Scrooby. The purpose of the post is to indicate a central point in North Nottinghamshire from where the "Pilgrim Fathers" originated with other important places from where the Pilgrims came and to where they went.

Contact

Email Sandra.withington@bassetlaw.gov.uk
Tel 01909 533533
www.pilgrimroots.org

